

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 565

By Sexton

A RESOLUTION designating March 21, 2012, as “Down Syndrome Awareness Day” in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, Down syndrome is one of the most commonly occurring genetic conditions, with one in every 733 live births resulting in a baby born with Down syndrome, and it is the most commonly occurring chromosomal condition; and

WHEREAS, advancements in Down syndrome research have given doctors, therapists, and educators new tools to care for individuals with Down Syndrome so that they may live healthy and fulfilling lives; and

WHEREAS, this Body recognizes the many achievements, abilities, and unique communications needs of individuals with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, people with Down syndrome are living longer than ever before and the life expectancy of individuals with Down syndrome has increased dramatically in recent decades—from twenty-five years in 1983 to sixty years today; and

WHEREAS, children with Down syndrome are often fully integrated in social and educational settings and increasingly go on to graduate from high school and attend postsecondary education programs; and

WHEREAS, while placement in the workforce remains a challenge, career opportunities have improved, and adults with Down syndrome have attained a variety of positions, bringing enthusiasm, reliability, and dedication to their jobs; and

WHEREAS, advancements in education, research, and advocacy have had a tremendous impact on the opportunities for individuals with Down syndrome to live functional, successful lives; and

WHEREAS, further education and awareness for Down syndrome is still needed today;  
now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED  
SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE  
CONCURRING, that we hereby designate March 21, 2012, as "Down Syndrome Awareness  
Day" in Tennessee and encourage the citizens of this State to support the search for a cure for  
Down syndrome and to value, accept, and include those who have this condition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared  
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.